



Coming Soon: new Cason Family Park and a second dog park.

WE PARK IT RIGHT HERE

It's no coincidence that we have over 40 miles of trails and 15 park properties in West Lafayette. We planned it that way. The next big thing is developing Cason Family Park adjacent, to the restored 1879 Morris Schoolhouse, located on US 231 and Cumberland Avenue. Phase One includes two age-appropriate playgrounds, paved and natural trails, an outdoor classroom next to the schoolhouse, a rain garden, restrooms, a small shelter, and parking. Phase Two consists of additional paved trails, a water feature, and three shelters. What a great setting to combine recreation with a portal to the past. Construction for Phase One will begin in early 2023.

Additionally, plans are underway for another dog park near the Wellness Center and trails along Salisbury Street as part of West Lafayette's Parks and Recreation Master Plan. These projects, and the vision and energy that fuel them, come from the Parks Department and the foresight and efforts of dedicated Park Board members who work behind the scenes.

Park Board Vitals

Since 1939, West Lafayette has enjoyed the continuous presence of community volunteers to help guide the direction and development of recreational opportunities and facilities. The

Park Board is comprised of five members: four are appointed by the Mayor (two Democrats and two Republicans); the School Board appoints one. Each member serves a four-year overlapping term and may be reappointed for additional terms if both parties agree.

Park Board members meet monthly and advise the Parks Department. They provide feedback, approve budgets, adopt policies, and have the authority to pass bond issues and exercise the power of eminent domain. Mainly, they serve as the community's eyes, ears, and voice to help the Parks and Recreation Department make sound decisions that suit a wide variety of tastes, both recreationally and functionally. Beyond the Board Room, these members are active participants in community events.

Every park project came to fruition because of the Board's influence and hard work. These unsung heroes guided the acquisition of Happy Hollow Park, the Municipal Swimming Pool, Tapawingo Park, all the trails, Morton Community Center, and a list as long as your arm that now includes Cason Family Park. Their commitment of time, knowledge, and elbow grease has made West Lafayette a premier community.

See inside for who's who on the Park Board.





John Dennis

MAYOR'S FAQ

Several years ago, we ran a series of lighthearted yet informative YouTube videos about City services called "Fun with the Mayor." It was a visual platform to address commonly asked questions we get in the Mayor's Office about construction, trash, the parks, and "what's that smell?" Although we no longer film the answers, the questions keep coming as our community keeps growing. Here is a sample of some of our most frequently asked questions.

What's tying up traffic? What's going on? Why are the roads closed?

Our community's population has doubled in the last ten years, bringing the need for more and better infrastructure. More residential areas create more traffic which necessitates more roads, sidewalks, and trails. It's a good problem and one where we are striving to keep one step ahead of the need. To receive project updates or to subscribe go to westlafayette.in.gov/engineering.

Why does construction take so long?

All road construction is planned and budgeted in advance and put on our Capital Plan. We always have a list of things to do and tackle these projects primarily during a five-month construction window.

Why do Police and Fire always use their lights and sirens?

There is a critical need for these emergency vehicles to be noticed, no matter the time of day/night and traffic. Lights and sirens grab the attention of distracted drivers and pedestrians. Additionally, those needing assistance find solace in hearing that help is on the way.

Why the change in traffic patterns and roadways?

Transportation has changed over the years, and we're responding to an increased need for multimodal ways of transportation. That means narrower roads for driving and wider paved paths for pedestrians, bikers, scooters, and skateboarders.

Is there something you can do about my neighbor's (dog, house color, noise, trash, etc.)?

Sometimes people get frustrated. We get that. Many complaints can and should be handled between neighbors, but we will listen and do what we can. For example, a concerned citizen reached out about turtles getting run over near the Celery Bog. We listened and put up a Turtle Crossing sign to increase awareness. In case of danger, please contact the police.

For current information on the topics you care about, please search our website, westlafayette.in.gov, or our social media. If you can't find the answer, don't hesitate to call my office! Have a happy and healthy spring!

My neighbors listen to great music whether they like it or not.

Unattributed

CALLING ALL

Passionate Pedestrians & Bicyclists

A new Bike/Pedestrian Committee is helping promote and educate the public on the benefits of multimodal transportation. We need community input to help guide future multimodal infrastructure and development! Meetings are quarterly. Please contact Jeffrey Kuhn for more information on how to get involved on the committee.

jkuhn@westlafayette.in.gov



PARTY SPACES

Need a place to host a spring party or event? The Wellness Center has several outdoor spaces plus three community rooms, and a party room, for rent. For details, contact the Parks & Recreation Department at westlafayette.in.gov/parks/ under Room and Shelter Rentals.

Chop your own
wood, and it will
warm you twice.

Henry Ford



TO BURN, OR NOT TO BURN: THAT IS THE QUESTION

As we approach spring and warmer weather, many residents clean up limbs and other vegetation on their property that may have died or fallen over the winter. As a reminder, burning these items inside the City limits is NOT the proper way to dispose of them. Open burning is banned in the City except in certain situations, such as a commercial fire pit. See the City's open burning ordinance: ARTICLE V. - OPEN BURNING | Code of Ordinances | West Lafayette, IN | Municode Library. If you have questions on burning within the City, please contact the Fire Department at 765-775-5175.

A better, safer solution to yard waste is to take advantage of the Street and Sanitation's pickup service. Branches, no longer than six feet and no wider than six inches, are accepted, either stacked neatly at the curb or in a yard waste container. No soil, sod, root balls, grass clippings, or construction materials are accepted. Please visit Brush & Yard Waste on the City's Street & Sanitation webpage for all the details and your neighborhood's pickup schedule.

TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AT TOMMY

The Tommy Johnston Neighborhood Park at the intersection of Wood and Chauncey streets is getting a major upgrade with the installation of brand-new adult fitness equipment by GameTime worth over \$60,000. Take a break from the gym, and flex your muscles outdoors for a challenging workout. It might help to make you the next American Ninja Warrior contestant!

The park is dedicated to Tommy Johnston who served on the Parks Board for 20 years; 14 years as president. He was very active in community activities and also worked as Purdue's Director of Information. This .6 acre pocket park includes a picnic shelter and tables, a grill and water fountain, and a basketball court. Situated close to campus apartments, the park and its upgrades will help residents and students stay physically fit. The new equipment will be installed this spring.



ROCK THE BLOCK

Annual monies from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development create opportunities to improve the City with Community Development Block Grants. CDBG dollars provide funding for local infrastructure in low-to-moderate income neighborhoods, such as accessible curbs and ramps on sidewalks. CDBG funds also give dollars to several social service agencies to assist income-qualified residents in the City limits of West Lafayette. If you or someone you know needs assistance, please refer to the list below. This list is not exhaustive. For more community resources, please visit westlafayette.in.gov/cdbg.

MORTGAGE, RENTAL, AND UTILITY ASSISTANCE:

Homestead Consulting Services
765-423-1284 or info@homesteadcs.org.

HOME REPAIRS 62 or older OR have a documented disability
The Tippecanoe Senior Center
765-447-2311 ext. 3

FOOD ASSISTANCE

Food Finders Food Bank
765-471-0062

Meals on Wheels
765-429-6325

RECYCLE SMART: KNOW WHAT TO THROW

The WL Go Greener Commission would like to remind citizens which recyclable items are acceptable by the City and Tippecanoe Solid Waste District. Everything else can be donated, repurposed, or trashed.

Recyclables should be:

- clean
- dry
- loose and un-bagged

Please verify that the number inside the triangular recycling symbol on the plastic bottle is marked with #1 or #2. Smart recycling saves tax dollars and the environment. Thank you for your help!



Recyclables:

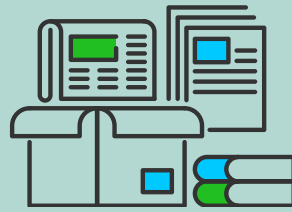
GLASS BOTTLES & JARS



METAL FOOD & DRINK CANS



MIXED PAPER & CARDBOARD

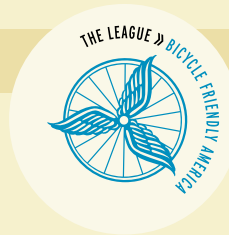


PLASTIC BOTTLES, JARS & JUGS MARKED WITH #1 OR #2



WE DID IT AGAIN!

West Lafayette was given another Bronze Award for being a Bicycle Friendly Community by the League of American Bicyclists. The four-year honor is based on the City's bikeable roads, events, education, safety, and bike-friendly businesses.



"The City of West Lafayette has been a Bike Friendly Community for just over two years. We're pleased to continue to promote the mission of the League of American Bicyclists and ensure that our residents in the biking community can recognize the businesses and services that do a great job supporting this Bike Friendly Community with Bike Friendly Business practices," said Jeff Kuhn, Project Engineer for the City of West Lafayette.

"The City of West Lafayette is currently in the midst of several projects that keep bicyclists at the forefront of our transportation plans. Businesses in West Lafayette are stepping up and sharing their support for employees and customers who choose to use alternative modes of transportation, and the City is doing their part to support and promote biking as an effective and healthy means of public transportation with the new Salisbury/Grant Redevelopment Project along with many more trail projects in the area," said Kuhn.

"Biking has helped me save on fuel and given me a way to explore the Greater Lafayette area in ways I could not with a car."



WHO'S WHO

2022 Park Board Members:

Karen Springer President

David Pupura Vice-President

Paul Siciliano Secretary

Kitti Carriker Member

David Kucik Member

Andy Gutwein Park Board Attorney



Fifty members have served on the Board these last 83 years from all walks of life, including representation from academia and the business community. Karen Springer, the School Board appointee, has served since 1996 almost continuously. Her steadfast dedication has provided guidance and continuity to the Board amid changing City leadership, Parks administration, and fellow members. "I really enjoy being on the Park Board and am energized working on Master Plans to bring community ideas to life. Right now I'm most excited about the new Cason Family Park, our first new park since 2008," shared Karen Springer.

IN THE NEWS



Photo by Frank Oliver

The Celery Bog Nature Area was featured in *Outdoor INDIANA* and mentioned in the *IndyStar* article about top places to photograph and observe some of the best wildlife in north central Indiana. It also won *The Exponent* Readers' Choice Award as the best place to hike/run in our area.

BLOOMING BEAUTIFUL

Celebrate spring with a pop of color in garden spots or flower pots. West Lafayette's annual flower color is purple for a bright touch to 2022. Order forms for select discounted annuals will be available at **westlafayette.in.gov**, with pick-up around Mother's Day.



Where flowers bloom so does hope.

Lady Bird Johnson

SPLIT-BODY TRUCK SAVES TRIPS

Less fuel. Less labor. More efficiency. Residents on the south end of the City will see a new trash truck in town. Half-trash and half-recycling, the split-body truck eliminates two trips with a single stop. Please be sure to have all of your items out by 7 am. Slight route changes have also added more efficiency to keep West Lafayette clean and green.

Clean & Green



CITY NEWS

NEW HIRES

Christopher Gmyrek
Engineering Technician
Engineering

Emma Housel

Deputy Clerk
Office of the Clerk

Jacob Jones

Equipment Operator/
Laborer
Street & Sanitation

Michael Lucas

Probationary Patrol
Officer
West Lafayette Police

Cody Smith

IT Systems
Administrator
Information Technology

Bradley Young

Maintenance/Facility
Operator
Water Resource
Recovery Facility



John Dennis • Mayor
765/775-5100
mayor@westlafayette.in.gov

Sana Booker • Clerk
765/775-5150
clerk@westlafayette.in.gov

westlafayette.in.gov

Sonya L. Margerum City Hall
222 N. Chauncey Ave.
West Lafayette, IN 47906

Committed to Going Greener



A Tree City USA



Robins are a harbinger of spring.

LET'S GO EVENT CALENDAR

RX/OTC Take Back

2nd Thursday • 11:30 am - 1:30 pm
Mar 10 • April 14 • May 12
West Lafayette Police Station

City Offices Closed

Good Friday • April 15
Memorial Day • Monday • May 30

Wednesdays in the Wild

See website for COVID Protocols
westlafayette.in.gov/parks

Riverside Skating Center

(Weather Permitting)
Call for hours 765-743-7465
Tapawingo Park

West Lafayette Farmers Market

Opens May 5
Wednesdays • May - October
3:30 - 7 pm
Cumberland Park

Purdue Spring Fest

April 9 • 10 am - 6 pm
<https://ag.purdue.edu/springfest/home>

Purdue Bug Bowl

April 9 • 10 am - 6 pm
<https://extension.entm.purdue.edu/bugbowl/schedule-of-events/>

Purdue Grand Prix

Saturday April 23
purduegrandprix.org/

Round the Fountain Art Fair

Saturday May 28
9 am - 4:30 pm
Downtown Lafayette

Taste of Tippecanoe

Saturday • June 18
6 pm - Midnight
Downtown Lafayette



ALL EVENTS are subject to change.
Please check individual venues before you go.